

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT:

Victoria Kent
Public Relations Manager
MMPI
Phone: 312.527.7508
E-mail: vkent@mmart.com

**DESIGN EXCELLENCE COMPETITION AWARDS THE YEAR'S BEST CASUAL
FURNISHINGS PRODUCT DESIGNS**

**Prestigious Awards Honor Outstanding Designs in 11 Product Categories During the
International Casual Furniture & Accessories Market™**

CHICAGO (September 22, 2009) – The casual furnishings industry's top manufacturers were honored with the distinguished Design Excellence Award during the International Casual Furniture & Accessories Market™, held at The Merchandise Mart in Chicago, September 21-24, 2009.

The Design Excellence Awards – considered the highest recognition for new product design in the casual furnishings industry – honor manufacturers whose merchandise demonstrate innovation, fine craftsmanship and great engineering in 11 product categories, including two new important industry categories, Fabric and Outdoor Rugs, Carpeting and Flooring.

Each of the 11 category winners will be judged again to determine the recipient of the Lillian B. Winchester Best Of Show Award, which will be announced at the Apollo Awards Banquet on Wednesday, September 23, 2009. The Best Of Show winner will receive \$1,000 to donate to their design school of choice.

A renowned panel of industry experts judged the entries and the International Casual Furnishings Association presented the awards as follows:

Cast Metal Furniture

Pride Family Brands, Sophia Formal Cushion Dining Chair

Complementary Casual Products

Gloster, Axis Coffee Table

Fabric – NEW CATEGORY!

Veneman Collections, Woodgrain Hill – Green

Outdoor Lighting Products

Woodard (by Joe Ruggiero), Belgravia Table Lamp

Outdoor Rugs, Carpeting and Flooring – NEW CATEGORY!
Veneman Collections (by The Rug Market), Terene Outdoor Rug

Rattan/Wicker/Woven Materials Furniture
Laneventure, Solona Round Dining Table

Shade Products
TUUCI, Ocean Master MAX Crescent Parasol

Tubular Materials Furniture
Barlow Tyrie, Quattro Sun Lounge

Wood Casual Furniture
ScanCom North America, Bogor Recycled Teak Rectangle Table

Wrought Iron/Wrought Aluminum Furniture
Kettler, Sereno Barrel Back Chair

The Lillian B. Winchester Best Of Show Award will be announced at the Apollo Awards banquet at Chicago's Union Station on September 23, 2009.

The International Casual Furniture & Accessories Market is exclusively endorsed by the International Casual Furnishings Association (formerly known as the Summer & Casual Furniture Manufacturers Association, SCFMA) and the Casual Furniture Retailers Association (CFR) and managed by MMPI.

For more information about the Market or the Design Excellence Awards, please call 800.677.6278 (MART) or visit www.casualmarket.com.

SAVE THE DATE:

International Casual Furniture & Accessories Market™
September 21-24, 2010
The Merchandise Mart
Chicago, IL

SHOW INFORMATION

For casual furniture and accessories buyers who need to purchase a wide selection of outdoor furnishings and accessories, The International Casual Furniture & Accessories Market is a four-day trade show that provides retailers with an outlet to find all things related to outdoor and casual living. Featuring the latest products and trends in the industry, the Casual Market boasts approximately 300 temporary exhibitors and more than 40 permanent showrooms totaling approximately 350,000 square feet of overall exhibit space on floors 7, 8, 15, 16 and 17 in The Merchandise Mart in Chicago.

MMPI is a trade show and property management firm, specializing in managing buildings devoted to wholesale showrooms and commercial office space. MMPI produces more than 300 trade shows, market events and conferences each year.

MMPI manages The Merchandise Mart and 350 West Mart Center in Chicago; Market Square, the Suites at Market Square, Hamilton Market, Plaza Suites, Furniture Plaza and the National Furniture Mart in High Point, N.C.; the Architects & Designers Building and 7 W New York in New York; the Boston Design Center in Boston; the L.A. Mart in Los Angeles; and the Washington Design Center in Washington D.C.

Vornado Realty Trust, owners of MMPI, based in New York City, is a fully integrated equity real estate investment trust. Vornado's common shares are listed on the New York Stock Exchange and are traded under the symbol VNO.

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